



**The Holy Great Martyr and Healer Panteleimon
Whom the holy Church celebrates on July 27.**

This Saint, who had Nicomedia as his homeland, was the son of Eustorgius and Eubula. His father was an idolater but his mother was a Christian from her ancestors. It was through her that he was instructed in piety, and still later, he was catechized in the faith of Christ by Saint Hermolaus (see July 26) and baptized by him. Being proficient in the physician's vocation, he practiced it in a philanthropic manner, healing every illness more by the grace of Christ than by medicines. Thus, although his parents had named him Pantoleon ("in all things a lion"), because of the compassion he showed for the souls and bodies of all, he was worthily renamed Panteleimon, meaning "all-merciful." On one occasion, when he restored the sight of a certain blind man by calling on the Divine Name, he enlightened also the eyes of this man's soul to the knowledge of the truth. This also became the cause of the martyrdom of him who had been blind, since when he was asked by whom and in what manner his eyes had been opened, in imitation of that blind man of the Gospel he confessed with boldness both who the physician was and the manner of his healing. For this he was put to death immediately. Panteleimon was arrested also, and having endured many wounds, he was finally beheaded in the year 305, during the reign of Maximian. Saint Panteleimon is one of the Holy Unmercenaries, and is held in special honour among them, even as St. George is among the martyrs.

Rest from labour. Wine and oil allowed.

Dismissal Hymn. Third Tone

O HOLY prizewinner and healer Panteleimon, intercede with the merciful God that He grant unto our souls forgiveness of offences.

Kontakion. Plagal of First Tone.

SINCE thou art an imitator of the Merciful One, and hast received from Him the grace of healing, O prizewinner and Martyr of Christ our God, by thy prayers heal the diseases of our souls, and ever dispel the stumbling-blocks of the enemy from them that cry unceasingly: Save us, O Lord.

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